DEC 0 6 2004

IN THE UNITES STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: **EXAMINER: JOHN R. PARADISO BOYCE PENN** §

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§ ART UNIT: SERIAL NO: 10/040,125 3725

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ATTY. DOCKET NO: FILED: 12/31/01 BP5302

FOR:

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR WORKING

WITH SHEET MATERIAL

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I herby certify that this paper comprising 2 pages entitled RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION is being sent via facsimile to

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703) 872-9306

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In Response to the Office Action mailed 11/4/2004, please consider the following:

ELECTION OF APPARATUS CLAIMS

Pursuant to your conversation with our office on December 2, 2004, the Applicant elects to prosecute Claims 1-8, which are the apparatus claims directed to the above-named invention. The Applicant understands that if the apparatus claims are

allowed, he will have the opportunity to rejoin Claims 9-20, which are the remaining claims and are directed to a process for using the apparatus, pursuant to MPEP § 821.04.

We further understand that the election does not need to be traversed. We also understand that if the process claims are found to be outside the limitations of the apparatus claims upon rejoinder, we may file a continuation-in-part application and a terminal disclaimer at that time to proceed with prosecution of the process claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 6, 2004